

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 5 and 39 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1-4, 6, 7, 14-16, 35-38, and 40-42 as follows:

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1. (Twice Amended) In a first processing system communicating with a second processing system over a communication link, the communication link including a telephone line connected to the first processing system, a method of responding to a disruption in communication associated with a call waiting signal transmitted on the telephone line, the method comprising:

receiving a call waiting signal from the telephone line after communication has been established between the first processing system and the second processing system;

terminating communication with the second processing system in response to [a disruption on the telephone line] the call waiting signal;

monitoring the telephone line to determine when there is no incoming ring signal on the telephone line and when all of one or more extensions associated with the telephone line are on-hook; and

[establishing an on-hook condition on the telephone line; and

waiting for a ring signal]

when it is determined that there is no incoming ring signal and all extensions are on-hook, initiating communication with the second processing system by transmitting a communication call from the first processing system to the second processing system.

2. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of enabling a user to respond to an incoming telephone call associated with the call waiting [wherein the disruption is caused by a Call Waiting] signal.

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising, after the step of terminating the communication, the steps of:

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receiving [if] the incoming ring signal [is received] within a first predetermined period of time;[, then:]

determining that [waiting for] an off-hook condition does not [to] occur on the telephone line within a second predetermined period of time following initiation of the incoming ring signal;[ and

if the off-hook condition is not detected on the telephone line within the second predetermined period of time, then:]

establishing the off-hook condition on the telephone line; and

outputting an outgoing message onto the telephone line.

4. (Twice Amended) A method according to claim 3, further comprising the steps of:

recording an incoming message after outputting the outgoing message; and

re-establishing the on-hook condition after recording the incoming message; and

re-establishing communication with the second processing system].

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(Twice Amended)

A method according to claim 1, [further comprising the steps of, if a ring signal has not been received after a first predetermined period of time,] wherein the step of receiving the call waiting signal comprises the steps of:

[waiting for an on-hook condition to occur on the telephone line; and

upon detection of the on-hook condition, re-establishing communication with the second processing system]

detecting a disruption in the communication between the first processing system and the second processing system; and

within a predetermined period of time after detecting the disruption, detecting the call waiting signal.

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(Amended) In a client processing system communicating with a server over a communication link, the communication link including a telephone line, a method of [managing] responding to a [communications] disruption [during] in communication [with the server], associated with a call waiting signal transmitted on the telephone line, the method comprising:

receiving a call waiting signal from the telephone line after communication has been established between the client processing system and the server;

terminating communication with the server in response to the [disruption] the call waiting signal;

receiving a ring signal from the telephone line;

detecting an off-hook condition of the telephone line following initiation of the [disruption] ring signal;

[if the off-hook condition is detected following the disruption], waiting until [for] an on-hook condition of the telephone line is detected; and

upon detecting the on-hook condition, re-establishing communication with the server by initiating a communication call from the client processing system to the server.

11/14. (Twice Amended) In a client processing system coupled to a [communication device] server by a communication link, the communication link including a telephone connected to the client processing system, a method of [managing] responding to a disruption in communication associated with a call waiting signal transmitted on the telephone line [with the communication device], the method comprising:

receiving a call waiting signal from the telephone line after communication has been established between the client processing system and the server;

storing, at the client processing system, information describing a browsing status of the client processing system;

terminating [the] communication with the [communication device] server in response to the [disruption] call waiting signal;

pausing for a predetermined period of time;

after expiration of the predetermined period of time, monitoring the telephone line to determine when there is no incoming ring signal on the telephone line and when all of one or more extensions associated with the telephone line are on-hook [determining whether the disruption is still present]; [and]

upon determining, by the client processing system, that there is no incoming ring signal on the telephone line and that all of the one or more extensions are on-hook, automatically re-establishing communication with the server by initiating a communication call from the client processing system to the server [communication device if the disruption is no longer present]; and

retrieving data from the server based on the information describing the browsing status.

By Gmdd.  
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~~15.~~ (Amended) A method according to claim <sup>11</sup>~~14~~, wherein the step of monitoring the telephone line comprises the steps of:

sensing an impedance on the telephone line; and

determining whether the sensed impedance indicates that all of the one or more extensions are on-hook [wherein the disruption is caused by a Call Waiting signal].

<sup>13</sup>  
~~16.~~ (Amended) A method according to claim <sup>11</sup>~~14~~, further comprising the step of displaying information identifying a caller who has placed an incoming call associated with the call waiting signal [wherein the communication link comprises a segment used by both the client processing system and a telephone system, the telephone system having an extension telephone coupled to the segment, wherein the disruption is caused by the extension being operated].

<sup>5</sup>  
~~6~~ 35. (Amended) A method according to claim ~~6~~, wherein the first processing system includes a memory, the method further comprising the steps of:

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before the step of terminating communication [in response to the disruption], storing in the memory information representing a current status of the communication between the first processing system and the second processing system; and

after the step of initiating [upon re-establishing] communication with the second processing system, automatically [re-establishing] restoring said current status using the information stored in the memory.

<sup>7</sup>  
~~36~~. (Amended) A method according to claim <sup>6</sup>~~35~~, wherein the first processing system is configured for browsing the World Wide Web, and wherein the information representing said current status represents a Web browsing state of the first processing system when the call waiting signal [disruption] was received [detected].

<sup>9</sup>  
~~37~~. (Amended) A method according to claim <sup>8</sup>~~36~~, further comprising the steps of:  
before the step of terminating communication with the server [processing system], storing in the client processing system information representing a current state of the client processing system when the call waiting signal [disruption] was received [detected]; and  
after the step of initiating [upon re-establishing] communication with the second processing system, [reestablishing] restoring said current state of the client processing system using the stored information.

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~~38.~~ (Amended) A method according to claim 37, wherein the client processing system is configured for browsing the World Wide Web, and wherein the information representing said current state represents a browsing state of the client processing system when the call waiting signal [disruption] was received [detected].

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<sup>14</sup>  
~~40.~~ (Amended) A method according to claim <sup>11</sup>~~14~~ [39], wherein the client processing system is configured for browsing the World Wide Web at the time of receiving the call waiting signal [the disruption, and wherein the information representing said current state represents a browsing state of the client processing system at the time of the disruption].

<sup>15</sup>  
~~41.~~ (Amended) A method according to claim <sup>11</sup>~~14~~, wherein the step of automatically re-establishing communication is performed using [communications device comprises] a modem coupled to the communication link at the client processing system.

<sup>16</sup>  
~~42.~~ (Amended) A method according to claim <sup>11</sup>~~14~~, wherein the step of automatically re-establishing communication is performed using [communications device comprises] an Integrated Services Digital Network [(ISDN)] adapter coupled to the communication link at the client processing system.

#### REMARKS

Applicants express appreciation to the Examiner for the interview conducted with Applicants' representatives. During the interview, the new independent claims presented herein as well as the